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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

July 24, 2012

Community School Partners with Community Kitchen

Anahola, Hawaii -- Homesteaders living and working on Hawaiian Home Lands have struck a partnership with educators operating a Native Hawaiian Public Charter School on Hawaiian Home Lands. Located in the Anahola Homestead, the Anahola Cafe, a community kitchen operated by the homestead association, will make daily lunches available to families, students and teachers at the Kanuikapono Charter School.

"On behalf of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, we congratulate the homestead and education leaders in Anahola," said Michelle Kauhane, Deputy Director at the state agency at dhhl. "The Hawaiian Homes Commission issued a parcel of trust lands for a school 10 years ago, and another for community based economic development just five years ago; this is exactly the kind of synergy and partnership that makes our homestead communities stronger!"

The Anahola Cafe was built with HUD funding provided by Senator Inouye, and awarded to the Kauai Community College in partnership with the Anahola Hawaiian Homes Association (AHHA). As the only certified community kitchen in East Kauai, the cafe provides a facility for entrepreneurs to make and sell food products.

"The Cafe has been operating for the last two years, with hourly rental time available at just \$15 dollars an hour," said Lorraine Rapozo, AHHA president. "We've also built an outdoor marketplace for local Kauai vendors to have a nice area right on the highway to sell their goods and services."

The lunch menu designed by the Anahola Cafe will be available to students and faculty at the beginning of the fall school schedule, providing nutritious meals and supporting jobs at the homestead.

"Working together helps everyone to create jobs in our community and to deliver excellent services to one another," Rapozo continued. "We really want to thank Lilia Kapuniai at the Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement (CNHA) for providing grant administration and project management help with the kitchen over the last three years - it made a big difference with our capacity."

Kanuikapono Public Charter School, founded in 1997, serves K-12 with 125 students enrolled.

AHHA, founded in 1982, is dedicated to the mission of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act of 1920. For more information about AHHA, please email info@ahha96703.org.

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